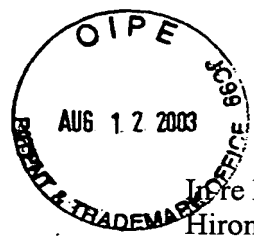


1743



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10

In re Patent Application of:
Hiromi NANBA et al.
Serial No. 09/995,812
Filed: November 29, 2001
For: INSTRUMENT AND METHOD FOR
BLOOD SEPARATION, AND PRE-
PREPARING METHOD, QUANTIFYING
METHOD AND PRESERVING CON-
TAINER FOR BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE

Examiner Lyle Alexander
Group Art Unit 1743

AUG 14 2003
TC 1700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

RECEIVED
AUG 14 2003
TC 1700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 11, 2003.

Signature: Linda Ritter
Name: Linda Ritter

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The undersigned certifies that either (1) each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.


Enclosed is a copy of a partial European Search Report dated July 17, 2003, for a corresponding European Patent application together with the references cited therein.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the

attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. (741440-33)

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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